India-Japan Joint Declaration issued on 10 December 2001 during the visit of Prime Minister Vajpayee to Japan.

(b) India and Japan maintain that terrorism cannot be justified wherever, whenever and for whatever reason; they resolutely condemn terrorism in any form and believe that the fight against global terrorism has to be comprehensive and sustained, with the objective of total elimination of terrorism in all regions. It has been agreed that a dialogue on counter-terrorism will be held in the framework of the annual India-Japan Comprehensive Security Dialogue.

(c) There are 33 ongoing loan projects, 2 technical co-operation projects and 2 Green Aid Plan projects under implementation in India under collaboration with Government of Japan.

Steps by India to join G-8 Nations

1712. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to take by Government to make India as one of the countries of the G-8 Nations;

(b) whether any diplomatic and political success achieved in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE IVIINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pendency of applications at RPO, Ahmedabad

1713. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Passport Offices in Gujarat indicating their locations;

(b) the number of applications pending in these offices for issue of passports; and

(c) whether Government intend to open more passport offices to meet requirement of the State?